

In the Claims

1-10. (cancelled)

11. (new) A circuit arrangement, comprising:

first and second individual series consumers arranged in series with one another and forming a series section;

at least one individual parallel consumer connected in parallel relative to said series consumers in a hydraulic supply circuit;

at least one supply pump within said hydraulic supply circuit;

a fluid return line within said hydraulic supply circuit;

a load sensor connected to said consumers and determining a highest load pressure for said series and parallel sections at a time;

a conduit conveying the highest load pressure at the time as a control pressure to a valve unit, said valve unit being operable to dramatically choke said fluid return line coupled thereto if load pressure in said parallel section is higher than load pressure in said series section until said supply pump raises pressure at least to pressure required in said parallel section; and

first and second bypass manometric balances are connected in fluid communication to said first and second series consumers, respectively.

12. (new) A circuit arrangement according to claim 11 wherein
said first and second series consumers are located in a fluid flow direction upstream of
said parallel section.

13. (new) A circuit arrangement according to claim 11 wherein
said valve unit comprises a hydraulically controllable proportional slide valve.

14. (new) A circuit arrangement according to claim 13 wherein
said proportional slide valve comprises a 2-way proportional slide valve.

15. (new) A circuit arrangement according to claim 11 wherein
said valve unit comprises a first control line connected to a series shuttle valve of said
series section and a second control line connected to a parallel shuttle valve of said parallel
section and to a load sensing shuttle valve of said load sensor.

16. (new) A circuit arrangement according to claim 15 wherein
said bypass manometric balances comprise control inputs that are each connected to an
output of said series shuttle valve.

17. (new) A circuit arrangement according to claim 11 wherein
a circulation manometric balance is connected between supply pump and said fluid return
line to said hydraulic supply circuit on which the highest load pressure prevails.

18. (new) A circuit arrangement according to claim 11 wherein

a first proportional choke valve is between said first series consumer and said supply pump, said first series consumer being upstream of said second series consumer; and

a second proportional choke valve is connected between said first and second series consumers.

19. (new) A circuit arrangement according to claim 15 wherein

mutually deblockable non-return valves are connected between said parallel consumer and said parallel shuttle valve.

20. (new) A circuit arrangement according to claim 11 wherein

at least one of said series consumers comprises a hydraulic motor; and

said parallel consumer comprises a hydraulic working cylinder.